ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An [X-mailer:] field analyzing section checks whether or not [X-mailer:] field is included in a header of received mail data. If [X-mailer:] field is included in the header, there is a possibility that received mail data will be error mail. Then, a [From:] field analyzing section extracts [From:] Field from the header. Next, the [From:] field analyzing section compares [From:] field with a character string registered in a character string list table. If both agree, received mail data is determined as error mail. If both disagree, received mail data is not determined as error mail. This makes it possible to recognize error mail more accurately.